



Hurricane Season Be prepared ...

How to Prepare for Water and Sewer Issues

Before a Hurricane

Be sure to have an adequate water supply on hand. Plan on one gallon per day per person as a minimum for drinking water alone. Have enough water for three days without service.

Water may be stored in clean plastic milk jugs, and placed in your freezer as early as possible before the hurricane makes landfall. In the event of a power loss, these jugs of ice can provide cooling capability, and additional water as the ice melts. *Note: Do not fill the jugs completely full before freezing!*

After a Hurricane

If you experience a loss of water service, make sure all faucets are securely turned off, and do not attempt to use them until advised that your service has been restored.

Minimize flushing toilets or pouring water down drains. Sewage pumping stations may be without power or hydraulically overloaded.

If you receive a Boil Water Notice

Disinfect water used for drinking (including pets), cooking, brushing teeth, and making ice by:

- Boiling water vigorously for two (2) minutes after it reaches a full boil.
- Chlorine Bleach. Use only unscented liquid chlorine bleach (*granular bleach is poisonous*). If water is clear, add 2 drops of bleach per quart of water (8 drops per gallon). If water is cloudy, add 4 drops per quart (16 drops per gallon). Mix well and let stand for 30 minutes.
- Purification Tablets. These are available at drug stores or camping outlets. Follow the directions on the package. Tables become less effective with age, discard or replace after one year.
- Or use bottle water.

Water does not need to be disinfected for bathing, showering, or laundry. Dishes can be washed as long as you can use hot water, otherwise disinfect.

When Boil Water Notice is Discontinued

- Flush the water out of your pipes. Start with an outdoor faucet furthest from your meter and flush all outdoor faucets.
- Run hot water through each indoor faucet until you notice a change in water temperature.
- Remove the aerator before flushing kitchen and bathroom sink faucets. Run enough hot water to flush the hot water heater.
- If you have an automatic ice maker, empty the ice tray several times to ensure that the line to the ice maker is flushed.